

ORLEANS COUNTY MONITOR

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plication.

IS VERMONT MONOPOLIZED?

Two weeks ago there appeared in the columns of the Orleans County Agricultural Association page in the Monitor an item which has resulted in asking the question, "Is Vermont Monopolized?" The item referred to follows:

The government has compiled some figures on the sale price during 1915 of our common farm products and the following table is given as published in the Franklin County Farm Bureau publication. It will be noted that Vermont receives the least of any of the New England states for its products without exception. Is it possible that Vermont's products are so inferior to those of the other New England states, or can all the difference be left to transportation charges when some of the other New England states are just as far distant from the market as Vermont? Should not the farmers of Orleans county make some attempt to improve upon these conditions? It can very easily be done if they are willing to work together and make their wants known.

	Beef	Cattle	Maple
Hay	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Wheat	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Barley	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Oats	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Clay	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Wool	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Butter	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Eggs	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Apples	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Oranges	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Lemons	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Pears	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Plums	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Cherries	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Strawberries	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Raspberries	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Blackberries	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Blueberries	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Cranberries	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Wildberries	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Gooseberries	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Currents	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Loganberries	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Marionberries	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Pineapples	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Melons	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Cucumbers	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Peas	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Beans	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Carrots	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Turnips	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Onions	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Potatoes	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Sweet potatoes	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Corn	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Soybeans	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Alfalfa	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Timothy	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Clover	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Straw	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Manure	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Compost	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Grass	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
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Grass	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.
Hay	100 lbs.	100 lbs.	100 lbs.

Who can tell why Vermont maple sugar brings 1 1/2 cents per pound less money than that of its nearest competitor, New Hampshire? Who can tell why the Vermont farmer realizes \$4.10 less per ton for his hay than his nearest competitor in New Hampshire or the Maine farmer who gets \$4 per ton more?

The Monitor cannot answer, but does ask whether the answer lies in monopoly. So far as this section of the state is concerned, it is fairly well known that there is really but one customer for his sugar and that the beef cattle, veals and hogs round up at one place.

At least the facts brought out in the table showing that in every item Vermont gets the small end of the deal, should be grounds for a thorough study and investigation by our state agricultural commissioner and his department. A little more per ton for hay, a bit better price for cattle, hogs and veal and another cent or two a pound for sugar would bring added hundreds of thousands of dollars to the Vermont farmer.

A price comparison not made in this table but which the Monitor would like to see, is that of milk and butter. Are Vermont farmers getting the small prices here too?

Are Vermont farm products monopolized?

It was a most enjoyable afternoon John B. Chase, editor of the Lyndonville Journal, gave a half-dozen of his neighbor editors on Saturday, the occasion being his birthday.

Killing frosts have held off remarkably well this fall, allowing crops which were necessarily late on account of a wet spring, to mature. This has been of inestimable value to the farmer.

It is a compliment to Congressman Porter H. Dale of Island Pond to be sent into President Wilson's home district to do campaign speaking. Mr. Dale is a convincing speaker and it will be interesting to note what happens in the President's own territory. Mr. Dale is outspoken about the weaknesses of the Wilson administration and says he shall tell the whole truth in New Jersey.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

The fact that the Democratic campaign managers have booked Secretary Daniels for a speech in Maine seems to indicate that they have abandoned all hope of carrying the state and simply don't care what happens to the ticket in the September election.

Senator J. Ham Lewis, a spokesman for the administration, in attempting to apologize for the president's mollycoddle expression that we are "too proud to fight," explains that it is an old Latin quotation. But the people already know that it is out of date and the expression of a decadent nation.

"We don't want to maintain a political alms-house," remarked Mr. Hughes to the North Dakota farmers, and a nation applauds him. Americans are beginning to see a possibility in the near future of regaining their self respect.

This administration seems to have sold everything it could, from the nation's honor down to the smallest rural postmaster's ship.

WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.

Value of Vermont Asbestos.

It is mighty good news for this entire section "that the asbestos mines in Lowell are to be reopened at an early date." The war stopped the shipment of the product of these valuable mines to Germany, but it has also created a big domestic demand for asbestos that Canada cannot begin to supply. Before many moons there will be a railroad to those mines and then people in this country will begin to realize, just as the people did when the railroad reached Barre and granite hill in Barre, the real worth of those mountains of asbestos. — Morrisville Messenger.

The Green Mountain Boys.

"The Green Mountain Boys" would be an excellent name for a regiment of cavalry if Gen. Wood's idea is carried through. He believes that it would stimulate recruiting regiments in the American Army, like those of Great Britain, took their names from localities in which they were recruited, and if, so far as possible, they were permitted to remain in barracks near their homes. If "The Green Mountain Boys" were chosen as a name for a Vermont regiment there would be some rich, though interrupted, traditions to carry on. It would be a matter of pride to Vermonters to keep their regiment filled up and it would afford ample stimulus to develop sound traditions. — Burlington News.

Former Governor Mead's Success from Small Beginnings.

The Howe Scale company of Rutland, so long and successfully managed by former Governor John A. Mead, has changed hands. The formal transfer of stock took place this week and is said to involve more than a million dollars. Dr. Mead took this plant when it was in trouble and apparently headed for the junk heap. He began by doing the work which had previously required three men to do and kept it up for years, until he had the plant on a sound and growing basis. Dr. Mead started in life without a dollar and owes his success to constant effort rather than to any brilliant stroke. The boys who begin life with the idea that they can succeed by a pull or by some grand coup are throwing away their chance. Most young men fail through lack of patience. They want to get a position that pays good wages at the start but it is a thousand times better to get the place with a chance for the future even if the wages are very small. Start right and keep going is the only road. — Bennington Banner.

The Demand for State Economy.

The more people think about state expenses the more are they impressed with the inexcusable waste in doubling expenses in some departments in a few years, despite the fact that there is very slight increase in Vermont's population.

It cannot be that the people of the Green Mountain state are twice as wicked and lawless now as they were a few years ago. Yet State Treasurer Scott's annual report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916, shows that the cost of the administration of justice in Vermont during twelve months was \$417,876.99, as compared with \$291,124.85, ten years ago, 1906, and \$214,889.73 in 1903. The doubling of these expenses is a public scandal.

We do not know why the department of weights and measures should increase from \$2,208 in 1911 to \$14,046.63 in 1913, and to \$12,030.80 in 1916. There is not the slightest excuse for this.

The Vermont public department spent the sum of \$84,669.73 in one year.

Not many years ago the state legislature met on the first Wednesday in October and followed the long established precedent of adjourning by Thanksgiving. Now the session drags along a number of months.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901, the legislative expenses were \$61,079.83; in 1907, \$81,759.19. In 1909 the legislative expenses jumped to \$134,293.80, in 1911 to \$145,794.20, in 1913 to \$190,577.12, three times as much as in 1901.

In this connection the St. Johnsbury Caledonian voices the general demand for reduced expenditures as follows:

"The people of Vermont feel that they are a law-abiding body of people and that they need as little official restraint as any people in the country. But we doubt if there can be found elsewhere in this country 355,953 people, who have more prosecuting attorneys, more judges of courts, more collectors of taxes, more managers of state institutions, more lawmakers, more heads of departments for the real labor to be performed than this small little state of Vermont. We believe the government of the state is too heavy and therefore unnecessarily expensive and that there is an opportunity for some constructive men to outline a practical system for retrenchment without sacrificing efficient government. It will be well for the state if its officers and candidates for public office set themselves seriously to work to bring about a reorganizing of the state government along these lines."

Manifestly it is up to the coming legislature to set a good example for the various state departments, and incidentally it will be in order for the coming state Republican convention to pledge the taxpayers of Vermont a move in the direction of economy in state expenditures. — Burlington Free Press.

A HEARTLESS ADMINISTRATION

This administration has displayed no more feeling of responsibility for the American women who have been raped and for the American men, women and children who have been killed in Mexico than a farmer shows for the rats killed by his dogs when the hay is taken from a barn. And now the American people are asked to sanction this policy in the name of peace, righteousness and humanity! — From the Speech of Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, delivered at Lewiston, Me., in behalf of Charles E. Hughes.

VERMONT NOTES

Nearly 100 freshmen have registered at Norwich university, Middlebury, the largest entering class in years.

Rudolph Smith of Elmore, aged five years, has a bad case of infantile paralysis. The cases now number 20 in Vermont. There have been four deaths.

Adj. Gen. Lee S. Tillotson returned to St. Albans Saturday from Eagle Pass, Tex., where he went two weeks ago to visit the camp of the First Vermont infantry.

United States Senator Carroll S. Page is a patient at the Rutland hospital. His physician finds that Mr. Page has no organic trouble but has told him that he will better enjoy his outing of a month or six weeks at Atlantic City, N. J., if he spends a few days of absolute rest in bed.

Hobart Bliss of Morrisville was caught by a cave-in and buried in sand up to his neck while at work with his father drawing sand to be used in their new barn. More than a wagon load of dirt had to be moved before he could be extricated. It was with difficulty that he breathed while imprisoned.

Senator Carroll S. Page spent \$21,445.98 during the recent primary campaign, which resulted in his renomination by the Republicans, according to returns filed Saturday with the secretary of state. Former Governor Allen M. Fletcher, of his opponent's financial expenditures of \$22,420.80. Gov. C. W. Gates, the third contestant, spent less than \$500.

The seventh annual orchard meeting of the Vermont State Horticultural society held at South Hero Wednesday was attended by about 100 Burlingtonians and 50 other members and their friends, scattered among Grand Isle county, Chittenden, Franklin, Lamoille, Addison, Bennington and Rutland. Every town in Grand Isle was represented. There were 200 people on the grounds in the course of the day.

The Howe Scale works at Rutland passed from the hands of John A. Mead into the possession of capitalists on Tuesday. According to terms of the sale, the plant will remain in Rutland for at least ten years. John A. Mead will be retained as president. At the present time there are 1,100 employees and this number will soon be materially increased. The transaction probably involved more than \$1,000,000.

The controlling interest in the Advance of Burlington, the weekly which was primarily the organ of the Progressive party in Vermont, has been transferred by Guy B. Horton, president of The Advance company, to Merle MacAllister, who has been editor of the paper the past four months. Mr. MacAllister has not purchased the entire stock of the paper, Mr. Horton retaining a small portion of it and there being shares held by others.

The 71 students, former members of C company and of the attached sanitary troops of the Vermont National guard, who arrived Sept. 20 at Fort Ethan Allen from Eagle Pass, Tex., were discharged Friday from the federal service, most of them leaving immediately for their home. The guardsmen received their federal pay of \$15 a month for August and 15 days of September and most of them received several dollars additional, the unexpended portion of their clothing allowance, which is 31 cents a day.

While no formal announcement has been made with reference to whether Vermont academy at Saxtons River would reopen, it has been apparent that there would be no session of school there this fall. It is now stated by persons in position to know, that the academy will remain closed for this term and probably for a year. No definite decision has been made as to the institution's future, but it is thought likely that after being closed a year the affairs of the school will have shaped themselves so that the work can be resumed.

Francis Ketcham, 21 years old, who has always lived in Bennington and who has served sentences at both the industrial school at Vergennes and the house of correction at Rutland, Friday afternoon confessed that he killed William Costello, whose dead body was found Sept. 16 near the Vermont Soldiers' home crossing in Bennington. The confession was obtained at the jail at Salem, N. Y., where Ketcham is serving a sentence of 90 days for stealing a buggy. The theft of the wagon was a part of Ketcham's plan to escape after the commission of the crime.

The Republican state convention will be held at Burlington Thursday, Sept. 28. Dr. H. D. C. Hawley of Burlington will be temporary chairman. The state convention, under the new law will consist of the nominees for the state offices, the nominees for state senatorships and the nominees for two representatives, must also elect a state committee. Stanley C. Wilson of Chelsea, chairman of the state committee, presided at the meeting and Robert W. Simonds of St. Johnsbury was elected chairman of the committee on resolutions for the state convention.

He Trusts Animals More than Humans

Billy Snyder, the head keeper at Central Park Zoo, New York, says in the October American Magazine that he would rather trust animals than humans, and the writer of the article about him says:

"If I trust animals farther than humans," Billy Snyder says—and if you could see him manhandling the toe nails of a lion, pulling a tooth for a hippo or doing any such delicate job, you would pretty nearly realize that he loves animals and that he is ready to climb out of bed at any hour to attend to one of his pets that happens to have the belly-ache from eating too many peanuts or dainties that the visitors bring. Don't forget, too, that he loves children and every kiddie that lives anywhere near Central Park, New York City, where he is the head keeper of the big zoo, knows Billy Snyder, for he lets them hold the pretty little lion or tiger cubs, ride on the elephant, or do something equally exciting every once in a while. Billy Snyder is a king with animals and children for his subjects, and they all swear by him loyally."

Vermont Boys and Girls to Run Third Exposition.

The boys and girls of this state will soon engineer their third Vermont State Agricultural and Industrial Exposition. The exposition this year will be held in the big armory in Burlington the week of the state teachers' convention and already promises to far excel last year's fine showing. The exhibition will run from Tuesday, October 10 until Friday, the 13th, or four days and evenings.

Each department, and there are 18 with 57 classes, will be in charge of an older boy or girl carefully selected from various sections of the state. This arrangement makes the exhibition unique and entirely different from any show or exposition held anywhere in the country.

The exposition has been the custom since it was conducted for the first time three years ago, will again cut out all frills and get away from commercialism as far as possible, for no space is rented and for one whole day, Wednesday, public school children will be admitted free when accompanied by their school teacher.

No fancy work, freaks, nicknacks or useless exhibits will be permitted. In fact the utilitarian side of school work only will be given a place in the armory, for the whole enterprise is conducted for the sole purpose of stimulating and encouraging general public interest in practical vocational education and industrial training.

Groups of pupils from public schools and institutions will give demonstrations in trades and vocational instruction the three last days of the exposition. Work shops and class rooms will be fitted up as an exhibit of some of the self-supporting trades now being taught and pre-vocational courses that have more recently become a part of the curriculum of several public schools.

These youthful mechanics and artisans will include carpenters, woodworkers, machinists, dairymen, dressmakers, cooks, etc. Agriculturalists and their exhibits will be made in evidence, also exhibits of poultry. One of the federal department officials in attendance last year was heard to say, "I do not know of an undertaking elsewhere in the United States of a similar character." A prominent educator from New York City in attendance said, "You are setting a notable example in Vermont for the country to follow." Visit Burlington and see for yourself. Any boy, girl or adult may have an illustrated handbook giving much information and list of prizes on addressing the Director Archibald C. Hurd at White River Junction, until October 1st, after that date, Burlington, Vt.

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